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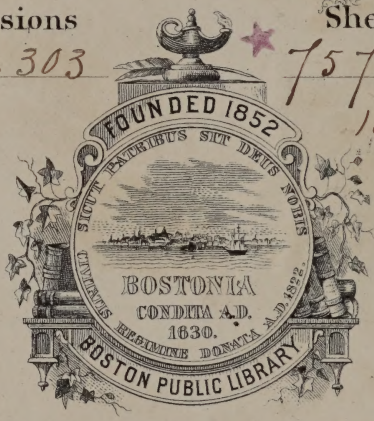

Received Apr. 20, 1889.

Nathan Webb
29 Nov.r 1817.

A

DISCOURSE

DELIVERED BEFORE THE

HUMANE SOCIETY,

AT THEIR

ANNIVERSARY, MAY, 1817.

* 7.676.70
1817.

BY WILLIAM TUDOR, JUN.

PUBLISHED AT THE REQUEST OF THE SOCIETY

BOSTON:
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DISCOURSE.

ON a common occasion, I should hardly have ventured to appear before this polite and humane audience. The more immediate objects of this most respectable society, philanthropic and elevated as they are, have so often been the themes of eloquence, that through fear of exciting unfavourable comparisons, I should have relinquished the honor of addressing you. But contrary to custom, on this anniversary a contribution is to be made for the funds of the General and Insane Hospitals, now establishing in this State. Anxious to contribute my mite in some way to these objects, I willingly accepted the appointment, when it was of little consequence who was the speaker, when it would be his subject and not him, which would occupy the feelings of his hearers, and when the general excitement in favour of these most beneficent undertakings, might cause even my feeble efforts to be heard with indulgence.

The Humane Society, one of the oldest of our benevolent associations, has been long endeared to the public. On its praise, however grateful the theme, I am not going to dwell. Those who have preceded, have left me no chance of competition. What these have spoken, many have felt. The shipwrecked sailor, cast by the howling storm on a deserted shore, has owed to its precautions shelter from the blast, and the means of restoring half-extinguished life. Of all the wreaths that ancient Rome decreed to her illustrious citizens, the noblest of all, the civic crown, which was obtained not through causing tears to flow, but for drying them up, it has been the peculiar office of this Society to bestow. The fortunate preserver, and the rescued victim, have owed to it, the one distinction, the other existence.

In the great work of founding these hospitals, this Society has been most distinguished. It has constantly fostered the plan which is now to be realized. Besides the contribution of the members in their individual capacity, they have as a Society, given five thousand dollars from their funds to aid the design. This is indeed a rare and noble example of a Corporation, acting with the feeling of a high-minded, generous individual; a most striking instance of wisdom and magnanimity. Surely then

they have a right to call on the public to give their support. That nothing in their power might be omitted, they have deviated from their settled rules, and resolved, that a collection should be made on this occasion, that every one might have an opportunity to contribute something to this great cause of benevolence.

Of the necessity of these hospitals, there can be no doubt suggested, except that which is derived, from their not already existing. That they have been so long retarded, has been owing to various causes. That they are urgently wanted now, no one who examines the subject can refuse his conviction. Yet here reasoning is useless, when we have the experience of the world before us. Wherever mankind have ceased to lead the wandering life of savages, hospitals have been erected. Under every form of government, under every mode of belief, the physical and mental sufferings of man form a part of his condition. The Asiatic, and the more civilized European nations, all possess these establishments in various degrees of perfection.

Their importance is not confined to the relief, which they afford to the immediate sufferer, though this alone is sufficient to recommend them; their utility is still further increased by their being a school for instruction, and therefore in a degree of preven-

tion. These asylums of humanity, which offer their succour to every species of disease, give to the surgeon that skill, which can only be acquired and retained, by frequent practice. The most difficult and dangerous cases, generally of the most rare occurrence, are here repeatedly brought under the inspection of medical men, and the chance of relief to every succeeding sufferer, is increased by all the acquisitions of experience. For want of this advantage, our young men have been obliged to accomplish an expensive education in foreign countries. It is in our power to obviate this necessity, and to give our young physicians an opportunity within their reach, to gain that practical knowledge of their profession, which may afterwards alleviate the agonies of pain, and stay the progress of disease, in every part of the Commonwealth.

Many instances are known, where much suffering would have been prevented, and many lives preserved, had Institutions of this kind existed to receive those, who had not the means to pay for a suitable residence. Yet it is not only the deprivation to the poor, which is to be lamented, but even persons in better circumstances, would sometimes find a hospital, where they might pay their expences, more desireable than any other situation. The quiet, the regularity, the constant attendance of experienced

nurses, are advantages which strangers and many other individuals could not otherwise procure.

In most countries, even in despotic ones, the greater part of these extensive charities have owed their origin to private benevolence, and the fact is honourable to human nature. Yet some persons have supposed, that it is the duty of government, not of individuals, to create them. The duty of the latter is only a moral one. No nation can long exist without charitable and learned foundations. Under arbitrary governments, where the property of the subject is at the mercy of the Sovereign, these will form so many signs of his power, so many monuments of his glory. In free countries where the people controul the finance of the state, and set narrow limits to its exactions, voluntary taxation for these objects is an imperious duty. If it be neglected, liberty must soon fall a sacrifice, and the fate of a people, who could thus betray themselves through sordid motives, would hardly be lamented.

The foundation of hospitals here, can be no longer delayed, and noble proofs have been given that this truth is felt by the community. Each generation must take its share of public burthens; the wants of society are progressive in a compound ratio, and while its prosperity keeps a parallel course, the full exercise of munificence is, if possible, more

politic, than agreeable. If one generation falters in its duty, or is prevented by great calamities from discharging it, the evil will be felt through a century. If we now build these hospitals and are able to support those who may be the patients in them, the next generation will be able to contribute to the relief of the greater numbers who will apply. For alas! the miseries, as well as the vices of society, grow with its growth; and where its resources for the support of charity, learning and religion, are not likewise enlarged, that society must perish in premature decay. He then who refuses now, to give his portion of superfluous wealth, loads his children with a fourfold burthen.

The present period is extremely propitious to their commencement. The system of hospitals in Europe has been greatly ameliorated of late years, by the indefatigable exertions of philanthropy and science. Improvements in the administration, in the internal economy, in the distribution of apartments, in the precautions against infection, in the treatment of disease, have all been adopted and rendered nearly perfect. In the management of asylums for the insane, a real epoch has occurred within a recent period. The benevolent sect of Friends, have, in an establishment under their direction in Yorkshire, followed a new, humane and most

successful course of treatment. They have mitigated the evils of mental derangement, and greatly increased the chances of cure. Their example has produced a public excitement in England, has been followed by a parliamentary inquiry into the state of their insane hospitals, where, from a long course of neglect, the most frightful abuses had accumulated; and the wretched tenants were considered rather an object of speculation to mercenary, unfeeling superintendants, than as subjects for the exercise of medical skill, and of probable recovery. A complete revolution has been effected in them. All the experience thus acquired, all the improvements that have been made, are open to our adoption; and under the care of humane directors and the inspection of a vigilant public, we may feel confident, that our institutions will be productive of the most extensive advantages.

Every thing which can tend to lessen the standing expenses of these Hospitals, will extend the sphere of their relief; a suggestion to this point, will therefore be pardoned even if it should be thought to be impracticable. In the Catholic countries of Europe, the nurses of the hospitals are an order of nuns, called *Sisters of charity*. These most benevolent and valuable women devote themselves to assuaging human misery, under the impulse of charity,

guided and sustained by the immediate influence of religion. The late government of France found it expedient to restore this useful Order, while all others were rigidly prohibited. Experience shewed that besides the expense, there was a coldness, an indifference, and where it could be practised with impunity, a neglect to the sufferings around them, in the mercenary nurses. The service of the hospitals was found to be inferior, when it was engaged in only for the motive of mere pecuniary gain; it was steadily efficient, and constantly humane, when it was prompted and ennobled by the sublime sentiments of religion—when for devotion here, to the sufferings of mankind, to soothing the anguish of pain, and alleviating the terrors of death, it looked forward to the reward of eternal happiness in another world. The zeal, the humanity consequent to such motives, have been thought to be wanting, even in the best establishments of protestant Europe.

It will not be objected, that this would be creating a religious Order, contrary to the spirit of protestantism. This would be a society of females, but what society ?—Not an Order of nuns pining in useless seclusion, trying with vain efforts to fill the void in their hearts, which a privation from all the ties, the duties and affections of their sex had crea-

ted, by a series of frivolous employments and tedious ceremonies.—Not an Order where the innocent victim of family pride or superstition, is persuaded at an age of inexperience, to make those rash vows, that separate her from a world, to which she is ever after prevented from returning, by the gloomy walls and grates of that living tomb where she is immured.—No; these would be women of a mature age, renouncing the pleasures of life, for the task of mitigating its calamities, supported and dignified, by the pure, simple and daily practice of religious duties, such as our forms of worship prescribe. Surely there is no vain superstition, there is no dangerous principle, there is nothing inconsistent in such an Order, with the spirit of our religion.

Will any difficulty be apprehended in filling such a society, whose numbers will not be large? Certainly not by any one who knows the ardor of universal charity which pervades our country.* If in the enthusiasm of our zeal, we are exploring Asia, to propagate the doctrines of Christianity, we shall not be unmindful of its first injunctions; we cannot forget its most affecting lessons; we shall not pass by the traveller, who lays wounded and bleeding by the road side, till we have first alighted, and

* See note A.

poured oil and wine into his wounds!—If we are seeking to civilize the barbarians of an island in the Indian Ocean, we shall not abandon our neighbour, who is pining in want, in misery and despair!—If we are circulating innumerable tracts to spread the knowledge of the true belief, we shall not leave unheeded the wretch, whose bewildered intellects have rendered him insensible to all the affections of nature, reckless of the very existence of his God!—O no! there will be always found candidates enough for such a sacred sisterhood. How many females are there who are now given up to pious and charitable pursuits, in some of which, perhaps, their efforts are comparatively wasted? How many are there who have arrived prematurely, at that period of existence when its illusions cease to charm, whose hearts, a prey to incurable grief, can no longer engage in the pleasures or agitations of life, can feel only for its wretchedness, sympathize only with its sorrows! how gladly would such individuals become the *Sisters of charity!* Apartments in the hospital, a neat, simple, and peculiar dress, a spontaneous engagement and no irrevocable vows, would be the conditions. Looking to heaven for reward, connected with this world only by pity for its sorrows; their time filled in alleviating the anguish of body and mind, in those who were under their care,

how tender and faithful would be the vigils of such nurses, how would they be remembered in the prayers of those they succoured, how truly would they be held in public veneration !*

The objects of these hospitals are wide indeed. What intellect can be so narrow as not to perceive their utility? What feelings so sluggish, as not to be roused to the support of one or the other? What heart so cold that it will not contribute to the relief of misery gasping in its very sight? Where is the individual who can stand unmoved at all these claims, which extend over such a range of human suffering? If he is untouched at the appearance of torturing disease, writhing in anguish, will not his pulse quicken on hearing the groans of mental agony; or will he not feel one shuddering emotion, at the contemplation of

> Moody madness laughing wild,
> Amid severest woe?

No, it is impossible; no man is wholly steeled to compassion. He who does not contribute, has not realized the existence of these calamities; and yet who can be ignorant of them?—Or he meditates some nobler purpose for his benevolence; yet what

* See note B.

can be nobler than to imitate, with human means, and at a humble distance, the example of his Saviour; to restore the sick to health, to happiness, and to society,—the maniac to the love of his friends, to the worship of his Maker!

But general pictures of distress occupy the imagination, without reaching the heart. There is something of grandeur in extensive calamities, that overawes our sympathy. We hear of a vast conflagration with surprize and wonder; we feel the deepest pity for the houseless little group, which the burning of a single dwelling has left unsheltered. A wasting plague, that depopulates a province, we read of with amazement; we are shocked, we are touched to the soul, when one individual falls a sudden prey to some malignant disease. Suffer me, then, to present to your view a single case. I will not attempt to rouse your feelings by any high wrought picture of suffering. I am not qualified for the task. I will merely mention a plain instance, not the invention of fancy, but such as I have heard it, such as it has actually occurred. A man in the prime of life, on whom a family is dependent, living in a remote situation, finds himself attacked with an uncommon disease: he gets to the capital, where he expects to find relief. The physician tells him that his disorder is in the first stages, that it may be

radically cured in a few weeks, and for this purpose he must remain in town: that if it be neglected, he will daily grow worse, and he will inevitably die a lingering and painful death. The man is poor, he has no means to pay for his lodging; whatever may be the event, he is forced to return home—the disease advances—the prediction was accomplished—the wretched patient died in protracted torture—there was no hospital to receive him!

The asylum for the insane is for the relief of different, perhaps severer kinds of distress. No situation of life is exempt from these, though they are more frequent among the higher stations; no grade of intellect is safe from attack, though the superior ones are the most liable. How select from the vast variety of cases, where this calamity occurs, the most striking? How many of them are calculated to wring the heart with grief!—A man arrived at a mature period of life, respected by society, beloved by his children, who are fulfilling all his hopes, is suddenly deprived of that reason which was occupied with enjoying these blessings; his madness shews itself in a bitter, derisory contempt of all those sacred duties which he once venerated; tramples on all the affections which he once felt with ardour; spurns at all the decencies of life, which he once watched with exactness, and, lost to all self-

respect, is thus degraded before his children! In speechless agony, they surround their wretched father who scoffs at their sufferings—those children, who felt in all its force, that blended love and reverence for their parent, the highest point in human affection, the summit from whence proceed our noblest aspirations of devotion, from which, in sublime imitation, our united love and awe, mount on trembling wings to the footstool of the Creator!

But neither sex nor any age are safe from these evils.—Suppose a female, at that season of life when the heart is warm and confiding: in her own village a young man engages her affections; born with a generous and ardent character, her vows once made, her whole prospect of happiness is blended with the idea of him who obtained them.—Fickle, false, unworthy of such a partner, he abandons her to join himself to another.—In this wretched girl, with feelings stronger than reason, the former obtain the mastery, till the latter becomes extinct. The vigour of youth adds strength to madness—her parents can send her to no asylum, where there would be a chance for cure—her lunacy becomes confirmed—and for thirty dreary years, squalid, half naked, chained to the floor, she has continued a howling, furious maniac!—Am I then only fancying these situations?—From the very walls of this Church, I could

point you to the scenes, I have so feebly depicted; nay, nay, do not listen, the screams of frenzy may almost startle on your ear.—

Let me then appeal to you all, to aid these undertakings; let every one throw in his mite; contribute something from your means however small; the recollection of the deed, will even afford you more pleasure, than the actual enjoyment. To the young men who are here present, it is not necessary to say, that the career of their lives is exposed to all the calamities they have now an opportunity to commiserate. Let them give only what they have appropriated to immediate pleasure—Do they meditate some convivial party? the indulgence may steep their faculties in temporary delirium; let them offer the intended expenditure, it may be the means of restoring some bewildered intellect to sanity. To the other sex, to those, who *when pain and anguish wring the brow, are ministering angels*, I turn with certainty of success. Perhaps some of you meditate the purchase of a needless ornament—ornament!—You who are yourselves the ornament, the life-soothing charm, the dear solace, of *this dim spot, which men call earth*, forego the trifling acquisition, which fashion will wither in a month; the sacrifice may furnish another couch in the hospital, may relieve the acute-

ness of pain, may restore a parent from the fangs of torture, to the arms of his suffering children.

At the conclusion of my task, I tremble lest I should have executed it too feebly, for fear I should have done less for these noble charities, than some more able speaker. Let me implore you then by all the mental and physical sufferings of our condition, to contribute your aid to their relief. Give largely of your superfluity, that the object of this generous society, may not be defeated; give, that the sufferer may be relieved and the wretched consoled; give, and *your Father who seeth in secret, will reward you openly!*

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APPENDIX.

An account of the origin and organization of the Massachusetts Humane Society.

A GENTLEMAN by the name of Moyes arrived in this town from London in May, 1784. He had been blind from his infancy; but by the assistance of a faithful servant in reading to him, and the conversation of friends, he had, as he possessed an intelligent mind, acquired a very good general education, more especially in philosophy and chymistry, and had in consequence of his acquisitions in science obtained the honour of a doctor's degree. In the latter part of the winter of 1785, Rev. James Freeman, Royall Tyler, Esq. and A. Dexter passed an evening with the doctor at his lodgings. In conversation on the different institutions established solely for publick benefit, Dr. Moyes suggested the outlines of a plan of a society, similar to the British Royal Humane Society, incorporated in 1774, in imitation of one in Holland, to restore to life such persons as were apparently dead from drowning, or any other sudden means of the extinction of life; and he detailed many cases of complete recovery. The doctor was informed, that the first publication of the British Royal Humane Society, with their regulations, could be procured in the town from a gentleman, who had received it from Dr. Hawes, the principal promoter of the institution. The gentlemen present agreed to meet again the next evening, and produce the British publication: from which, with some local alterations, a plan was completed, and afterwards adopted by the subscribers. Mr. Freeman wrote out the whole system agreed on between the gentlemen present; and each one took a copy, to solicit subscriptions for a fund to carry into effect the objects of the institution.

Dr. Waterhouse calling on Dr. Moyes, while the other gentlemen were with him, offered to take a subscription paper to the Hon. James Bowdoin, to which all consented.

January 5, 1786, the first meeting of the subscribers was held at the Bunch of Grapes Tavern in State Street. After agreeing to the rules and regulations as proposed, it was voted to organize the Society agreeably to them. It was accordingly voted, that it should be under the sole direction of not more than twelve Trustees, chosen by the members at their semiannual meeting in December;

which Board of Trustees was to consist of a President, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer, with six other Trustees.

Voted to proceed to the choice of officers.

Hon. JAMES BOWDOIN was chosen President.
THOMAS BULFINCH, M. D. First Vice President.
Dr. JOHN WARREN, Second Vice President.
Rev. SIMEON HOWARD, D. D. Treasurer.
Rev. JOHN CLARKE, Recording Secretary.
Dr. THOMAS WELSH, Corresponding Secretary.

Dr. Warren, chosen the Second Vice President, was not present at the meeting, nor had he subscribed to the institution. The paper was handed to a gentleman, who was requested to call on Dr. Warren, to inform him of the transactions of the Society, and to obtain his signature, and consent to accept the office of Second Vice President, and report at the adjournment, Feb. 2d.

Previous to the adjournment it was voted, that the officers elect be a committee to increase the list of subscribers.

February 2d. 1786, the subscribers met by adjournment.

The gentleman, requested to call on Dr. Warren, reported, that the doctor had subscribed to the institution, and accepted the choice of Second Vice President.

Dr. Bulfinch sent a note, that it was inconvenient for him to serve as Vice President, and that he declined the office.

Voted to proceed to another choice. Dr. James Lloyd was elected.

Voted to elect six Trustees.

Rev. SAMUEL PARKER, Rev. JOHN LATHROP, D. D.
Dr. ISAAC RAND, Dr. AARON DEXTER, and
BENJAMIN WATERHOUSE, M. D. OLIVER WENDELL, Esq.

were chosen.

The meeting was then dissolved, to meet the second Tuesday in June, being, agreeably to the institution, a semi-annual meeting.

June 13th, 1786, a meeting of the Society was held, agreeably to the institution, by notice in the newspapers, in the Senate Chamber.

Dr. Lloyd declined the office of First Vice President.

Voted to proceed to the choice of a First Vice President.

Oliver Wendell, Esq. was chosen.

Dr. Rand and Dr. Waterhouse declined serving as Trustees.

Voted to proceed to the choice of three Trustees, one vacancy being made by the election of Mr. Wendell First Vice President.

Rev. Samuel Stillman, D.D. Nathaniel Balch, Esq. and Samuel Henshaw, Esq. were chosen.

From this period the Trustees have met by agreement at each other's houses, in rotation, the first Monday in every month; and have executed the duties of their office with punctuality and de-

spatch. They have erected several small houses in the most exposed places on the sea coast, to save the lives of shipwrecked seamen, and have furnished them with such conveniences, as were necessary for their immediate relief. The semiannual meetings of the Society have been continued regularly for the purposes specified in their constitution. The Trustees have given such satisfaction to the Society, as that no change has been made in the board, except by death or resignation. In June* a publick discourse has been annually delivered, by a gentleman appointed by the Trustees, on a subject connected with the objects of the institution, agreeably to one of its articles. The first publick discourse was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Lathrop.

In the year 1791, the Society was incorporated by the government of this Commonwealth with full powers to make such by-laws and regulations, as may be necessary for the benefit of the Society. Thomas Russell, Esq. was empowered by the act to call the first meeting of the Humane Society, to meet in the town of Boston, on the 7th day of April.

April 7th, 1791, the Humane Society met agreeably to notification.

Hon. Thomas Russell was chosen moderator.

Voted to confirm all the rules and regulations, that had been adopted previous to the act of incorporation, and which were ordered to be published with the next annual discourse.

Voted to proceed to the choice of officers, to serve till the semiannual meeting in December.

Hon. Thomas Russell was elected President.
Jonathan Mason, Esq. First Vice President.
John Warren, m. d. Second Vice President.
Rev. Simeon Howard, d. d. Treasurer.
Rev. Samuel Parker, d. d. Corresponding Secretary.
John Avery, Jun. Esq. Recording Secretary.

Trustees.
- Rev. John Lathrop, d. d.
- Rev. Peter Thacher, d. d.
- Rev. John Clarke, d. d.
- Dr. Thomas Welsh,
- Aaron Dexter, m. d.
- Nathaniel Balch, Esq.

All the physicians, who became members of the Society, offered their attention gratis, in all cases of apparent sudden death.

The rules and regulations of the Society have been repeatedly printed with the annual discourses, and the most approved methods of resuscitation practised in Europe and this country for general information. The records of the society since the act of incorporation are its history.

* The discourse is now delivered.

The following are among the most interesting communications which have been received by the Trustees, since their last publication. Several communications of an equally interesting nature are missing, owing probably, to the sudden death of their late highly respectable and excellent Corresponding Secretary.

Plymouth, Feb. 10, 1813.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HUMANE SOCIETY.

Gentlemen,

I AM requested to communicate the following particulars for your consideration.

The schooner Hero, Wendell Churchill, master, sailed from Boston for this port, on the 13th January last, having only two seamen on board with him, and on the next day one of them fell overboard and was lost. The same night a severe storm of snow with very boisterous wind, commenced, and continued through the succeeding day. Having on the morning of the 14th, reached a cove near Monument Point, they came to anchor, and capt. Churchill directed the only man on board with him, to go on shore in the boat, and endeavour to procure some persons to afford him assistance. The storm increasing in violence, the situation of the vessel became extremely hazardous, and required greater exertions than the captain was capable of bestowing. He was soon compelled to cut his cables and suffer her to drift in the surf towards the shore, while the waves were sweeping over the deck. At this critical juncture two or three persons observing the perilous situation of the vessel repaired to the shore, but being uncertain whether any person was on board, and deeming it impracticable to afford relief, abandoned her to her fate. But Mr. Ellis Bartlett, being more resolute, soon procured a boat, which, with incredible labour, he dragged a considerable distance, and in making the dangerous attempt to get on board he was four or five times thrown from his feet and rolled in the surf; having at length reached the vessel, the boat filled and sunk, but he providentially succeeded in ascending the deck. Capt. Churchill being extremely fatigued and exhausted, his clothes frozen about him, incapable of any further exertion, had retired to the cabin in despair. Mr. Bartlett, with the aid of a rope, lowered himself into the water near the shore, and afforded to capt. Churchill such assistance, that both were rescued from the very imminent danger to which they had been exposed.

Having ascertained from capt. Churchill and others, the foregoing satisfactory particulars, so evincive of the prompt humanity

and courage of Mr. Ellis Bartlett, it is incumbent on me to recommend him to the particular notice of the trustees, being well assured that he was instrumental in preserving the life of capt. Churchill.

I am with great respect, your obedient,
and very humble servant,
JAMES THACHER.

Ten dollars were awarded Mr. Ellis Bartlett, for his humane exertions.

AT a meeting of the Trustees, October 5, 1813, ten dollars were awarded Mr. John Palmer for his persevering exertions in rescuing Green Sears from imminent danger of being drowned. The circumstances of this case are so peculiar that a short detail, as they were substantiated before the Trustees, is thought proper to be published.

ABOUT half past 4 o'clock in the morning of the 2d October, Mr. Palmer was going down the Long wharf in Boston to his boat with an intention to fish, if the weather should permit. Passing stores No. 14 and 15, he heard a faint noise, seeming to proceed from under the wharf. He thought it was the moaning of a dog, and went on some distance, when he felt himself impelled to return and listen more attentively. Discerning a small hole at the corner of the stores, whence the stone work had given way, he kneeled down and placing his ear to the hole heard faint moans intermixed with gulping. He called several times, "Who is there?" At length was answered so very faintly, that it was with difficulty he could persuade himself that it proceeded from a human being, but he thought he could hear the words, "Pick me up." He then called as loudly as he could, "Cheer up, my good fellow, whoever you are, I will soon come to you with a boat." Palmer immediately hurried down the north side of the wharf to obtain a boat small enough to go under the wharf. Arriving at the T, he saw a small float at the stern of a fishing boat, and seizing a small oar on the deck of the fishing boat, sprang into the float and paddled her as fast as possible opposite the place where he first heard the noise, and placed her close to the timbers and looked under and listened, without discerning or hearing any thing indicative of the object of his search, nor could he obtain any answer to repeated calls. Observing, near him, a place in the side of the wharf, from which a timber had been broken, Mr. Palmer pulled the float to it, and by crouching got her some distance under the wharf, when he came to a sort of confined place, in which broken and loose pieces of timber were

floating. He repeated his calls, but could obtain no answer. Still, however, at times, he heard a noise, resembling a man puking, and felt persuaded some person was there; but the knocking of the float against the loose logs, and the swash of the water, were so constant, that it was but now and then he could distinguish the gulping noise, and it was so dark, he could scarcely discern objects the nearest to him. While groping and shoving about with the float, his hand came in contact with what he thought were the shoulders of a man; and by looking steadily a moment or two, he discerned a person crouched on a log. Palmer brought the side of the float to him, heeled her a little over and tumbled the man into her. He lay speechless and motionless, excepting some slight efforts as if he were gagging. Palmer having groped his way out, the man became convulsed and continued so some minutes, when he became, comparatively, tranquil, and uttered, very faintly, "My God! my life is saved." In about half an hour he was able to stand. The time from Palmer's first hearing the noise until he brought the man from under the wharf, was nearly an hour.

The man thus saved, was Green Sears, of Hingham, a private in the 4th regiment U. S. Infantry. The account he gave of getting into the situation from which he was thus rescued, was, that the evening before, he went on board a Hingham packet, laying on the south side the wharf, to send a bundle to his sister at Hingham; that he continued on board until late; that when he left her, it was very dark and stormy; that he went up the wharf on the south side until he came to an opening between the stores, through which he passed and continued his course up the wharf, on the planks, on the north side, until his foot struck against something, and he pitched into the water. That he swam a long time, but it was so dark he did not know which way to direct his efforts, and became confused. That he repeatedly called for help, and continued his calls loud and long, but no assistance came. That at length he found himself, as he thought, under the wharf, and could not find a way out. That so long as his recollection continued he exerted himself to keep on the floating timbers, and thus remained, nearly or altogether senseless, until, in the manner, and by the means before mentioned, he was rescued, by Palmer, from his perilous situation.

Geo. G. Lee, Esq.

Sir,

I HAVE understood the Humane Society are desirous of ascertaining the facts relative to the rescue of two children from

drowning by Mr. William Savage. As I was an eye witness to the transaction, I am able to give the particulars, and I do it with the more pleasure, because they are so highly honourable to the good feelings of Mr. Savage.

About two months since, I was sitting with Mr. S. in his counting-room on the North Battery Wharf, when we heard a cry of "*some body over-board.*" Savage immediately rushed out of the counting-room, followed by me. In his way down the wharf *as he run* he took off his coat, he could not relieve himself of any thing else. When I came to the wharf, I saw two children in the water; Mr. S. had jumped over before I reached the spot. He first took the largest, about four or five years old, and swam to the wharf, where it was received by some of the by-standers. The other was in great danger, having its head entirely under water, owing to the buoyancy of the cloathes, and must have suffocated in a few moments, but the immediate exertions of Mr. Savage saved that also. The last was somewhat bruised and bloody about the head.

The children were about twenty feet from the wharf, carried off, either by the tide or their own struggles. I should think the water must have been about seven feet deep, and I think the youngest at least, if not both, would have perished, but for the prompt exertions of Mr. Savage.

I have the honour to be, your humble servant,

FREDERIC TUDOR.

Boston, Jan. 10th, 1814.

The society's gold medal of the value of ten dollars, was awarded Mr. Savage, for his exertions on this occasion.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HUMANE SOCIETY.

Gentlemen, *June,* 1815.

WE presume it will be agreeable to the Humane Society to be made acquainted with the meritorious exertions of Israel Merrill, of Manchester, N. H. in twice saving the lives of fellow-men, at the imminent risk of his own. And as we hope the benevolent efficiency of your society in the cause of humanity may not be strictly bounded to the limits of the State, but may with propriety be extended to the waters that are connected with it, and on which many valuable lives are exposed to danger, and where the honour or reward you may think proper to bestow, may lead to like efforts; we beg leave to state to you the circumstances of the transactions.

At the upper entrance to Amoskeig Canal, a dam is erected extending obliquely more than half-way across the river, directly at the pitch of the falls, and where the water is extremely rapid. Rafts pass near, but enter the basin formed by the dam safely, if steered with due care; any deviation from a certain course will occasion them to be carried down the falls, to the certain destruction of all involved in the accident.

John M'Cutchens, of Pembroke, and two others, were running a raft in, when, by some accident, it deviated and struck the outer extremity of the dam, and instantly wheeled round and was carried down the rapid. The two men being forward sprang into the dam, and swam across the basin to the shore. M'Cutchens ran also to the head, and as the raft left the dam, he sprang for it, fell short, and would have disappeared in an instant, if the fingers of one hand had not accidentally caught into a little opening between two timbers of the dam. He hung in this position, supporting his own weight, and that of the water that poured over him, breathing only under the rim of his hat. Israel Merrill was at that moment five hundred yards from him, at work. An alarm was given; he and all thereabout ran with all speed. Merrill supposing the nature of the occasion, undressed himself *as he ran*, and still keeping foremost, reached the opposite side of the basin, stript off his clothes, to be ready to swim. He plunged instantly in, and swam about two hundred yards to the dam, near where M'Cutchens was holding on. He succeeded in getting foot-hold on the dam, and though so slippery that he fell several times into the water that was rolling over it, two feet deep, he reached the man, now nearly exhausted, and placing himself in a bracing attitude, succeeded in drawing him up, too weak to stand. Merrill supported him along the dam till assistance could reach them. So great was Merrill's danger, that his friends turned as they supposed, from seeing him perish; and amongst the fifty men who were spectators, no one could venture to second this heroic exertion. No one doubted that both would perish.

The other instance of this young man's generous resolution, happened about two years ago. One Matthew M'Curdy was fishing on the rocks of the falls, he slipt and fell in with his net in his hand, and was instantly lost amidst the rocks and foam. Merrill was not far off. He ran and sprang in after him, and swimming as well as he might, and endeavouring to keep sight of the scoop-net, which the drowning man continued unconsciously to hold; buffeted by the surf, plunged, hurled, bruised and cut by the rocks, he continued in pursuit. Two other meritorious young men being lower down the river and hearing the alarm, perceiving the occasion, plunged into the falls opposite the man, and made as well as they could towards him. The man soon disap-

peared beneath a mass, or "jam" of logs, from which they got him out with much difficulty, and great hazard. He was indeed insensible, but they restored him at length to life and to his family. The young men who thus came off are, Josiah Gillis and Israel Hardy. All three still bear the scars of the injuries they received in the falls.

These worthy young men labour for their living, and their industry makes them respectable, and places them above want. If however it should be consistent with the rules of the society, in similar cases, to give them or either of them, some token of your approbation, and the honour of your acknowledgement of conduct so virtuous and noble, it would we think subserve the cause of humanity, and gratify not them only, but the community to which they belong.

Signed by JAMES PARKER,
JOHN L. SULLIVAN,
and six others.

Ten dollars, or the society's gold medal of that value, (at his option) was awarded Mr. Merrill, and five dollars Gillis and Hardy, each.

Plymouth, June 30, 1815.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY.

Gentlemen,

I AM desired to communicate the following instance of preservation for the information of the Humane Society.

On the 11th instant, as several boys were bathing in the Mill Pond in this town, the son of Ansell Robbins placed himself on a board, and drifted off to a depth of six or eight feet of water. He soon fell off the board, and was seen to disappear and rise again to the surface. The alarm being given, John Nicolson, a young man about twenty years of age, ran from a work shop, and without waiting to throw off his clothes, rushed into the water, and swimming to the spot, seized the boy round his neck while sinking, and with difficulty brought him on shore. The boy was greatly exhausted and near expiring, but he happily recovered.

As John Nicolson was instrumental in saving the life of the boy he is recommended to the consideration of the Society.

I am, with great respect and consideration,

Your very humble servant,

JAMES THACHER.

A silver medal of the value of five dollars, was awarded Mr. Nicolson.

Boston, Oct. 2d, 1815.

TO CHARLES DAVIS, ESQ. SECRETARY OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY.

Sir,

I BEG leave to submit the following statements for the consideration of the Trustees of the Humane Society.

On the night of the 31st August, the schooner Armistice of Portland, having seven persons on board, struck on a reef of rocks, off Cohassett, at 10 o'clock. She beat over; immediately afterward struck on another ledge; beat over that also, and instantly sunk. Four of the seven persons sunk with her, and were drowned. The mate, Mr. Newbury Morse, seized on the main rigging, and ascended the mast. ——— Mason, seaman, and a Frenchman, passenger, whose name is unknown, both reached the top of the foremast, which was presently carried away by the force of the sea, and they then caught by the mainmast, where all three remained during the night; the two former lashed themselves to the mast; the Frenchman would not permit himself to be lashed, but was supported by Mason. They were immerged at high water from the middle downward, the sea making constant breaches over them, and the wind blowing with great violence. The next morning about 8 o'clock, they were discovered by some persons from the shore, who, with the assistance of glasses, (the distance being between two and three miles from land) ascertained that they were men. At this time the sea ran very high, and the wind blew a gale, though somewhat abated in its violence since the preceding night. It was from the N. E. directly on shore, and the surf so great as imminently to endanger the safety of a boat. Under these circumstances, when few persons on shore believed that a boat could possibly live to reach the wreck, and even those on the wreck, entertained the same belief, four young men belonging to Cohasset, viz. George Hall, Obadiah Lincoln, Levi Oakes and Henry Doane, embarked in a small lapstreaked boat to the relief of the sufferers. A fifth hand could not be obtained for the boat, by reason of which she could not be so safely managed. They however reached the wreck, and the sea running so high as to render it dangerous to approach near the masts and spars of the schooner, threw ropes, which were made fast round the bodies of Morse and of Mason and they were dragged through the surf to the boat. They were so exhausted, as to be unable to help themselves and were stretched in the boat's bottom. They had been on the wreck nearly twelve hours. The Frenchman, being unable to support himself longer, fell from the mast and was drowned, during the passage of

the boat from the shore. The others were brought safely to land, and by care and attention restored in a few days to health. It rarely happens that more personal danger and fatigue are incurred in an attempt to save fellow beings from destruction, than was sustained in this instance.

Very respectfully,
D. S. GREENOUGH, Jun.

A gold medal of the value of ten dollars, was awarded to each of the persons above named.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HUMANE SOCIETY.

Gentlemen,

KNOWING that one object of your benevolent Institution is liberally to reward those who risk their lives to save persons when in imminent danger of drowning, the undersigned (who were eye witnesses) beg leave respectfully to represent, that, on the 18th day of January, 1816, a Mr. Kimball lost his life in attempting to save two lads, and the two lads, sons of Mr. Asaph Harlow, jun. were drowned in Charles River, and that Mr. Alexander Mitchell and Mr. John Dodge, in the same attempt to rescue the above, were in a most dangerous situation, and must have shared the same fate, but for the exertions of Messrs. Levi Haskell, Samuel Fulton and Owen Gerry, by whose assistance they were saved from a watery grave.

For particulars we refer to Mr. Moses Hadley, a man of known veracity, who witnessed the melancholy event,

Presuming that your liberality will bestow on the persons before named, Messrs. Alexander Mitchell, John Dodge, Levi Haskell, Samuel Fulton and Owen Gerry, such a compensation as their exertions merit,

We are, Gentlemen,
Your humble Servants,
WARD JACKSON,
L. BALDWIN,
JOHN FOSTER,
LEVI HEDGE.

The circumstances of the above were briefly these.

The boys, one about 19, the other about 8 years of age, were crossing the river on the ice, from Cambridge to Boston, and fell through. On seeing their perilous situation, several persons has-

tened to their assistance. Three of them, Messrs. Kimball, Mitchell and Dodge, with a boy, (who was skaiting, and, without much reflection, had proceeded to the spot,) got into the water. Mr. Kimball was drowned; Mr. Dodge and the boy were rescued, principally by the judicious exertions of Mr. Owen Gerry, with a board and a rope. Mr. Mitchell, after remaining in the water, hanging upon the ice, about twenty-five minutes, was taken up by Messrs. Haskell and Fulton, who had succeeded in getting a boat, upon the ice, to the place.

The trustees awarded Messrs. Mitchell, Dodge, Gerry and Haskell, a gold medal, each, of the value of ten dollars, and Mr. Fulton ten dollars, for their laudable exertions.

New Bedford, March 25, 1816.

GEORGE G. LEE, Esq. CORRESPONDING SECRETARY OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY.

Sir,

AS one object of your society is to obtain information of every act of humanity, by which a life has been saved; I take the liberty to relate to you an instance of courage, evinced by two boys, of the name of Price, belonging to this town. On the 13th of January last, a Mrs. Whitfield, with her little grandson, a child of about 7 years of age, were crossing Accushnet River, from Bedford to Fairhaven, on the ice; the ice gave way, and both were precipitated into deep water. Several men who were on the ice, fishing for eels, saw her, with her little grandson clinging to her neck, repeatedly attempt to raise herself upon the ice, which as often broke away with her weight. The men knowing the ice to be too weak to sustain a man's weight, a wide space around the unfortunate woman, dared not attempt her rescue. The woman, exhausted by the labour of holding her grandchild, and by her repeated struggles, at length ceased her exertions and threw her head back upon the ice; and, while in that situation, her agonizing cries were "*Save the child! save the child!*" distinctly heard by the men on the river.

Benjamin Price, the eldest of the two boys, approached so near this scene of distress as, with an eel spear (which was brought him by his little brother) to reach the little sufferer, who was far less exhausted than the woman, which the child instantly grasped and was safely drawn out on the ice. As it was impossible to save the woman, by the same means, he, at the most imminent risk of his life, advanced to the margin of the ice, seized, and drew her out of the water, and so her life was saved.

The affidavit of two of the men, who witnessed the whole transaction, is enclosed.

With sentiments of highest respect, I am, Sir,
Your humble servant,
JOHN PICKENS, *Town Clerk.*

The trustees awarded Benjamin Price, fifteen dollars and a silver medal of the value of five dollars, and William Price, five dollars, and a silver medal of the same value.

Augusta, 16 *Oct.* 1816.

Dear Sir,

ON Saturday, the twelfth instant, a very sorrowful scene was witnessed at this place. Frederick Lithgow, a lad about ten years of age, son to Col. Lithgow, left the ferry way, on the east side of the Kennebeck, in a small wherry, with a lady and another small lad, to cross to the opposite shore, by sculling. When about one third of the way across, the oar slipped out of the sculling place, and he fell over into the river. The person going over with the large ferry boat, which was ten or twelve rods before the wherry, first saw him struggling in the water; he instantly called for a boat to go to his assistance; the large boat was under way, from the scene, with a full load of teams and passengers. There were a great many persons on the west side of the river, but not a boat of any kind; there were two boats on the east side, and no persons to use them. The large boat, in the mean time, had continued its course. He had now sunk the third and last time, and finding no relief could be obtained from the shore, and the people calling for those in the boat to go back, they proceeded as fast as possible to the spot. There was no wind, and the water was perfectly still and clear. When within about twenty feet, the body was discovered lying at the bottom, the face upward. Mr. Samuel Williams, of this town, stripped off his coat, and instantly plunged in, head foremost, to reach him as quick as possible; the water was nearly seven feet deep; Mr. Williams has since told me he was almost exhausted before he could reach him, and even thought of returning; but making a great effort, he was just able to get one of his fingers into his clothes, by which he raised him from the bottom; and securing a better grasp, he immediately brought him up, and, by the assistance of an oar reached to him, got to the boat and they were taken in. The body was brought to the shore, in a small canoe, which had arrived, as soon as possible. He was about three minutes under

water, and, when taken up, was perfectly senseless, but groaned a little before reaching the shore. Medical aid was called, and, by, proper treatment, it was soon found that he would probably be recovered. The endeavours of those attending him were crowned with complete success; the event happened about eleven, A. M. and before night he was able to walk about; yesterday he drove his mother in a chaise to Dresden, a distance of about fifteen miles.

The lady, who was in the wherry, is sister in law of the same Mr. Williams, who, under providence, was the means of saving the young lad's life.

I am, Sir, with respect,
Your obedient servant,
SAMUEL HOWARD.

CHARLES DAVIS, Esq.

A gold medal, of the value of fifteen dollars, was awarded Mr. Samuel Williams, for his signal exertions on this occasion.

DR. AARON DEXTER, PRESIDENT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HUMANE SOCIETY.

Sir,

AN instance of intrepid humanity has lately occurred, which is thought worthy the notice of the Society over which you preside. In the morning of one of the late very cold days, two females embarked in a small boat, accompanied by only one boatman, to go on board the U. S. ship Independence, to which their husbands belong. There was much ice in the harbour, and the boat was driven by it from its course to the mouth of Medford River, where it remained immoveable. A large number of persons, who stood on the wharves, saw the situation of these unhappy people, but were unable to relieve them. A barge was sent from the Independence for that purpose; and after some fruitless endeavours to pass between the cakes of ice, returned to the ship. At this juncture a young officer, lieutenant William D. Salter, volunteered to go to the assistance of the sufferers. By the aid of some plank, which he took for the purpose, he was enabled, with great hazard and difficulty, to reach the boat, and found the females and boatman stretched at length, motionless and stiff. Lieut. Salter, with his bargemen, succeeded in transporting them to his barge, on the plank, and after the labour of two hours, in clearing themselves of the ice, arrived in safety on board the Independence. In the prosecution of their arduous enterprize,

Mr. Salter was, more than once, in imminent danger of drowning, from the planks giving way under his feet. He and his boat's crew suffered considerably from the cold; and the unfortunate persons, to whose succour they had gone, were frozen almost to death. Their lives may, without doubt, be ascribed to the humane and persevering exertions of Mr. Salter, and his bargemen. If the excellent Society, of which you, Sir, are the President, shall consider this a fit subject for their approbation, you will, I hope, excuse the liberty I have taken, in bringing before your notice a young gentlemen, so truly meritorious as Mr. Salter.

With sentiments of great respect,
I have the honour to be
Your obedient and humble servant,

———— ————.

P. S. I was not an eye witness to the scene I have described, but there are many of our fellow citizens, who can attest to it.
Feb. 16, 1817.

On the reception of the above communication, the president of the Society addressed a letter to the commanding officer of the Independence, on the subject, and received the following reply.

U. S. Ship Independence,
Boston Harbour, 22*d Feb.* 1817.

Sir,

WITH peculiar satisfaction, I bestow early attention on your communication, of this day's date, as president of the Humane Society of Massachusetts. The conduct of the officer alluded to, deserves this notice on your part; and the prompt course, which you have adopted to show your admiration, must prove most gratifying to him. As commanding officer of the ship, having reported to me the perilous and critical situation of two females and a man, apparently directing their course to the ship, but obstructed, and at last hemmed in by large flakes of ice, brought together both by the velocity of the tide and wind, on one of the severest days we had experienced during the past winter, I despatched a cutter, with two midshipmen, to their rescue, furnishing all such means as the ship afforded, to facilitate and effect it. After an unsuccessful attempt, and an interval of nearly an hour, the cutter returned to the ship with great difficulty. Believing it still practicable to release and remove these distressed persons, a fresh crew was appointed, and another attempt projected. Lieut. Salter, overhearing my orders, asked permission to take charge of the boat and direct it. I assented, and complimented him for the offer. He left the ship, and, with great per-

severance, succeeded in reaching the boat, within a short distance. With the aid of ropes, planks, &c. he conveyed the man, and one woman to the cutter. In assisting the other, he himself broke in twice, I believe, but lodged her in safety. His exposure caused the frost to take severe hold both of his feet and hands, from which he, however, has since recovered. This conduct called forth the spontaneous and unfeigned applause and approbation of all on board.

With great respect,
I am, &c.
WM. FINCH, *Commanding Officer.*

DOCT. DEXTER, Milk Street, Boston.

The thanks of the Society were voted to to Lieut. Finch, for the good judgment evinced by him in devising such measures as were the means of saving the lives of the afore-mentioned persons; a gold medal of the value of twenty dollars was presented Lieut. Salter; silver medals of the value of five dollars each, were awarded John F. Howell George D. Dodds, and John M'Cloud, and one dollar each to the barge's crew, thirteen in number, for their exertions on this occasion.

THE following were communicated as among the facts substantiated before the Trustees of the Humane Society, of the intrepid exertions of Mr. Tewksbury and his son, in saving the lives of several of our fellow citizens. Few, if any instances will be recollected, in which more skill and judgment have been evinced, or where a more deliberate and magnanimous exposure of life to jeopardy, in saving the lives of others, has been exhibited.

On the 26th May last, Mr. William Tewksbury, of Deer Island, and his son, Abijah R. Tewksbury, a lad 17 years old, were at work on the eastern part of Point Shirley, near Winthrop's Head. About 4, P. M. a boy came running from the Point, and informed him that a pleasure boat had overset in a direction between Deer Island and Long Island. Without waiting for further information, he immediately took his son into his canoe, set a small foresail, and ran through Pulling Point gut, towards Broad Sound. The wind was so high, that with the smallest sail the canoe nearly buried herself under water. Having relieved her, he stood in a direction for Long Island nearly

half a mile, without discovering any indication of the object of his search. He then discovered his wife and children on the beech of Deer Island, running towards Sound Point. This induced him to keep on the same course, and in a short time he discovered the heads of several men in the water, and as they rose and fell on the sea, he was impressed with the belief that there were more than twenty buffeting the waves, and contending against death. Being perfectly aware of the little burthen and slight construction of his canoe, (she being of the smallest class of "*lap streaks*"*) the wind blowing a violent gale, his apprehensions for his son's and his own safety, had almost caused him to desist from the extreme peril of exposing his frail barque, to be seized on by men agonized to despair in the last struggle for life. He however prepared for the event, took in his sail, rowed among the drowning men with fixed determination to save some, or perish in the attempt. By an exertion of skill, to be equalled only by an aboriginal chief in the management of a canoe, he succeeded in getting seven persons on board, and was attempting to save the eighth, when his son exclaimed, "Father, the canoe is sinking, we shall all perish." This exclamation calling his mind from the purpose on which it was bent, exposed to him his most perilous situation. Six inches of water in his canoe, nine in number on board, the upper part of her gunwale but three inches above water, the wind high, a heavy sea running, and constantly washing on board, and nearly a mile from the nearest land. That *nine* might even have a chance of being saved, he was obliged to leave one unfortunate man hanging on the stern of the jolly belonging to the pleasure boat.

Of the men saved, one was so little exhausted, that he could assist in bailing—another could sit up—and the others lay motionless, and apparently lifeless, on the bottom of the canoe. There not being room to row, Mr. T. had no alternative but to paddle before the wind, and was but able to reach the extremity of Sound Point. The instant she struck, she filled with water from the violence of the sea. Exertions were still necessary to save the five helpless men in the bottom of the canoe. In giving her assistance at this time, Mrs. Tewksbury was much injured by the convulsive grasp of one of the men, apparently in the agonies of death. They were all conveyed to Mr. T.'s house, where, by the application of hot blankets, tea, and medicine, they were recovered. Four did not recover, so as to be able to speak, for more than three hours. Eleven persons were in the pleasure boat, when

* This canoe, or skiff, is sharp at both ends—greatest length fourteen feet, and rakes very much; four feet six inches wide in the widest part, and eighteen inches deep.

she overset, two of whom attempted to swim to the shore, and were seen by the survivors to perish thirty or forty rods from the boat. One was drowned in the cabin. After landing those saved, Mr. T. returned with all possible expedition to the relief of the man left on the jolly. He was gone! The distance from the place where Mr. Tewksbury and his son were at work, to the place of the accident, is one mile and an half.

The above facts being made known to the trustees of the Humane Society, they voted that seventy dollars in money, and a silver medal of the value of ten dollars, with suitable inscriptions, be presented Mr. T.; thirty five dollars to his son; twenty dollars to Mrs. Tewksbury; and five dollars to the boy, who ran with the information of the boat having overset.

Names of the persons saved. Messrs. Thomas Currier, William Currier, John Humphrey, Stephen Jackman, William Brewer, (a lad sixteen years of age) Charles Field, and Rolla, a Lascar lad.

Names of those lost. Messrs. Benjamin Thayer, Elisha Tobey, William Frost, and Michael Whittemore.

From the Baltimore Federal Republican.

Is there one American who reads this simple and modest narrative, and who does not feel gratitude to God that he can claim as his countryman, this hero of philanthropy? While the warrior dips his hand in the warm blood of murdered innocence in search of a laurel, and binds it dripping with such horrible defilement around his brow, he is greeted by the million with loud and vociferous applause. We have now presented to the eyes of our readers, a hero of another cast of character. Behold this intrepid son of humanity, braving in his fragile bark the dangers of a tempestuous ocean, for the rescue of suffering victims—his canoe is half buried beneath the billows, and looking on the shore, he discovers his wife and children surveying the scene in breathless anxiety and trepidation. One single billow may render these agonizing spectators miserable—one dash of the wave may make his wife a widow, and his children orphans. Providence seems to have exposed Mr. Tewksbury to this trial, that his heroism might gain additional glory from the struggle. For a moment he casts an agitated eye on his wife and children, and he pauses—"all-various nature," as Thomson beautifully expresses it, "comes rushing on his heart." At the next moment he beholds the victims of the ruthless surges, and the father and the husband are in a moment banished, and the Christian takes entire possession of his soul. He combats with the surges, and he conquers. What a scene for a painter is here, to display at one view the wife and children on the bank, imploring the return of the husband, and of the father—himself in a dangerous bark, liable every

moment to become one of the victims of the foaming billows;—and at a distance the arms of the drowning sufferers, imploring his assistance—let the painter then display the countenance of the principal figure of the groupe, turning aside from the sight of his wife and children, and all illuminated by the full blaze of Christian benevolence!—We repeat the remark, what a subject for the pencil is here!

PREMIUMS

Adjudged by the Trustees of the Humane Society, and other expenses incurred since July 5th, 1813.

July.	To John Clark, for preventing a boy being drowned - - - - - -	3
	To William Simmons - - - -	2
	To William Yeaton, for 3 "Daniel's Life Preservers," for the U. S. ships Constitution, President, and the brig Rattlesnake - -	51
	To Ebenezer Brown - - - -	3
Aug.	To James Nickerson, for exertions in saving the life of Mrs. Tobey - - - -	5
	John Eliot's bill printing - -	62
	To Mr. Hearn, for preventing a child named Godfrey being drowned - - -	5
	To John Hagar, John Briggs, Ebenezer Church, Lilly Haytill, and Isaac Jackson, for rescuing eight soldiers from danger of drowning, three dollars each - - - - -	15
	The sloop Liberty, having 18 soldiers on board, overset in a violent squall; ten were drowned, and eight were saved by the men above named, when the squall was nearly passed.	
	To John Clark - - - - -	5
	To Mr. William E. Weld,—"*The* THANKS *of the Society,*" for rescuing John Russell, Samuel Stowell and Samuel Choate, when in danger of being drowned.	
	To William Patten and Robert Goodwin, for preventing a man being drowned, five dollars each	10
	To Capt. William Martin, for saving the life of Capt. John House in the harbour of St. Ubes, a gold medal - - - -	10
	Amount carried over	$171 00

	Amount brought over	171	00
Oct.	To Mr. Fletcher, for preventing a child being drowned - - - -	2	
	To Master Isaac P. Simpson, for rescuing Archibald Foster, when in danger of drowning in the Canal, near Mill Pond - -	5	
	To John Beaverstock, for extraordinary exertions in preventing a child being drowned -	10	
	To John Foster, for preventing a young man being drowned - - - - -	5	
	To James Nickerson - - -	2	
	To John Palmer, for saving the life of Green Sears	10	
Nov.	To Mr. Norton - - - - -	1	
	To John Heron, for preventing a son of Mr. John West being drowned - - -	5	
	To David Dexter, for preventing a child being drowned - - - -	4	
Dec.	To Jasper Hope, for rescuing William Pool, when in danger of drowning - -	5	
	To John Reidhead, for taking Messrs. Joshua Aery and Benjamin Wells out of the water	3	
	To John Eliot, for printing - -	7	
1814. *Feb.*	To Thomas Shaw, for his exertions in saving the life of a child of Mr. James Collins -	5	
	To Mr. William Savage, for saving two children, when in imminent danger of drowning, a gold medal - - - - -	10	
March.	To Mr. Lemuel Ayres, for furnishing the huts for the relief of shipwrecked seamen and others, in the lower harbour, with fuel, fire-works, &c.	25	
	To John Stevens, for preventing John Swinton being drowned - - -	2	
April.	To James Keaton, for taking the body of Luke Neville from under India Wharf -	3	
May.	To David Williams and John DeLuce, and their two sons, for exertions to save the lives of Joshua Hardy, jun. and William Hardy -	10	
	To John Cook and Abraham Williston for exertions in preventing a little girl being drowned	2	
	To Mr. Josiah Willard, for commissions and services as Messenger - - -	54	
June.	To Elijah Calton, for preventing Eliza Cunningham being drowned in the Mill Pond Canal	5	
	To Capt. John Dunn, for extraordinary exertions in preventing John Baxter being drowned	10	
	Amount carried over	$356	00

	Amount brought over	356	00
	To John Bolton, for preventing a child being drowned - - - -	5	
	To Thomas Carter, of Newburyport, for rescuing his classmate, Joseph Coolidge the third, from imminent danger of drowning, while bathing in Charles River, a gold medal - -	10	
	To Martin Kelly and Lewis Minard, for rescuing a child in danger of drowning, three dolls. each	6	
	To Mr. Damrell and his wife, two dollars each, and to Joseph Wheelwright one dollar and fifty cents, and thirty one cents expended for medicine, in relieving a man, who had fallen into the Mill Creek - - - -	5	81
	To William Lehay for preventing a child being drowned near India Wharf - -	3	
July.	To John Blackman, for saving a boy from drowning - - - - -	5	
	To William Roland and Henry Ahart two dollars and fifty cents each, for preventing another boy being drowned - - -	5	
	To Mr. Nash, for rescuing a son of Lewis Leland from danger of drowning - -	2	
	To Joseph Pease, for rescuing George Bannister from danger of drowning, after he had fallen from a boat in Boston Bay - -	5	
Aug.	To Charles Farrington - - -	2	
	To Lorenzo L. Barrus, for preventing a child being drowned - - - -	5	
	To J. M. Willard and Jonathan Bruce, for exertions to save a Mr. Williams, who had fallen from a fishing boat in the Light House Channel, two dollars each - - -	4	
Sept.	To Martin Stevenson and John Wheelright, for preventing a child being drowned, two dollars fifty cents each - - -	5	
	To Jacob Robinson, for his persevering and well directed efforts in preventing Benjamin Foster from drowning near South Boston -	10	
	To Samuel Bryant, for rescuing George Brewer and his brother from danger of being drowned	5	
Oct.	To Samuel Ball, for taking a son of Jesse Palmer out of the Mill Creek - - -	3	
	To Ira Eaton, for exertions in saving William Larkin - - - - -	2	
	Amount carried over	$438	81

	Amount brought over	438	81
Nov.	To John R. Moore, for his persevering and hazardous exertions in preventing a little girl being drowned - - - -	10	
	To Robert Durant, for saving Thomas Murch	5	
Dec.	To Joshua Newell, for exertions to prevent Mr. Ingersoll's child from drowning -	3	
	To Jacob Tirrell and Timothy Nash, for preventing William Hurley being drowned, two dollars each - - - - -	4	
	To Charles Harrington, for saving the life of a child - - - - -	5	
	To Lemuel Ayres, for putting huts in order, supplying them with fuel, candles, fire-works, &c.	26	46
1815. *Jan.*	To William Brintnell, for receiving into his house and comforting the captain, passengers and crew of the sloop Mason's Daughter, after she was wrecked on a rock in Broad Sound	10	
Feb.	To a boy named Etheridge, for his exertions in saving another boy, who had fallen through the ice, near South Boston Bridge -	5	
May.	To Joseph Frith, of Wiscasset, ten dollars, and to John Patterson, of Edgecomb, a gold medal of ten dollars value, for their persevering and bold exertions in saving the lives of John Cockean and Allen Malcomb in Wiscasset harbour	20	
	To Commodore Bainbridge, one of "*Daniels' Life Preservers,*" for the use of the fleet bound to the Mediterranean.		
	To Benjamin Pitman, for preventing a child of Mr. Charles Perkins being drowned -	3	
July.	To John Krueger, for saving the son of Mary Richardson - - - -	3	
	To Joseph Tucker, for exertions in preventing a child of Phœbe Trout from drowning -	2	
	To Josiah Gillis, five dollars, to Israel Hardy, five dollars, and to Israel Merrill, ten dollars, or a gold medal of that value, (at his option) for their exertions in saving the lives of two men at Amoskeig Falls - -	20	
	To John Emerson, for taking a boy from the water, when in danger - - -	2	
	To Annest Foeght and Henry Plumback, one dollar each, for rescuing a boy from danger	2	
	Amount carried over	$559	27

	Amount brought over	559 27
	To Miss Graupner - - - -	10
Aug.	To Mr. Lawrence Nichols, a gold medal of thirty dollars value for his extraordinary and bold exertions and well directed efforts in saving the lives of Messrs. Isaac Rouse and I. P. Richardson, when in most imminent danger, near Boston Light House - - - -	30
	To Mr. John Sevey, for saving the life of Joseph Roby, in Wiscasset harbour, a gold medal	10
	To John Wheeler, for preventing Mr. Whitney's son being drowned - - - -	5
	To John Cullum, for plunging into the water and taking therefrom a child of Mr. Thomas Dolliver - - - - - -	2
Sept.	To Samuel Williams, for exertions to save Ignatius Blackler - - - -	4
	To Peter Emery, for saving the life of another boy	8
	To John Nicolson, of Plymouth, for saving the life of a son of Mr. Ansell Robbins, a silver medal	5
	To Cyrus Cheney and Levi Forrester, for their exertions in rescuing William M'Carthy from danger of drowning, two dollars each -	4
Oct.	To Messrs. Henry Doane, George Hall, Obadiah Lincoln and Levi Oakes, all of Cohassett, for the skill, perseverance and heroism exhibited by them in saving the lives of two of the crew of the schooner Armistice of Portland, wrecked on Cohassett rocks, a gold medal of ten dollars value to each - - - -	40
	To William Ditson and Sylvanus Pool, for taking two boys from the water, in danger of drowning, three dollars each - - - -	6
Nov.	To John Eliot, for printing - - -	7
	To John Wood, for his persevering exertions in saving the life of a child named David Pratt, when in imminent danger of drowning in Mill Creek - - - - - -	10
1816. *Jan.*	To Isaac Mallet, jun. for preventing a child of Mr. Sullivan being drowned near the North Battery wharf - - - - - -	2
	To Eliphalet Spafford for his exertions in preventing a child of Benjamin Russell, Esq. being drowned - - - - -	4
	Amount carried over	$706 27

	Amount brought over	706	27
Feb.	To Lemuel Ayres for supplying the huts with materials necessary for the comfort and relief of shipwrecked persons - - -	32	24
March.	To Alexander Mitchell, John Dodge, Levi Haskell and Owen Gerry, a gold medal of the value of ten dollars to each of them, and to Samuel Fulton ten dollars for their persevering and hazardous efforts to save the lives of two sons of Mr. Asaph Harlow of Cambridgeport, who had fallen through the ice near West Boston bridge	50	
April.	To Benjamin Price and William Price, of New Bedford, brothers and minors, to the former a silver medal of five dollars value and fifteen dollars in money, to the latter a silver medal of five dollars value and five dollars in money, for their bold and successful exertions in saving the lives of Mrs. Whitfield and her grandson, who had fallen through the ice in Accushnet River, between Fair-Haven and New Bedford, and were, for a considerable time, in great peril, and were eventually rescued by the two boys, in the presence of a number of men, whose efforts were paralized by fear - -	25	
May.	To Samuel Jordan seven dollars, to Lemuel Spurr three dollars, for their exertions in preventing Joanna Tucker being drowned in Neponset river - - - - -	10	
June.	To Richard Wentworth of Charlestown, for his exertions in preventing a lad named David Darling being drowned - - -	5	
July.	To Richard Pike and Mr. Knowles, for preventing James M'Gilveray being drowned in Mill Creek, five dollars each - -	10	
	To John Hardy, for preventing Thomas Burton (a child) being drowned - -	2	
	To Robert Durant, for exertions in preventing James Bates (a child) being drowned -	3	
Aug.	To John Eliot for printing - -	5	
	To Russell & Cutler for do. - -	5	50
	To Shepherd Blanchard, for his persevering exertions in saving the life of a child in great danger of drowning at Commercial Wharf -	10	
	Amount carried over	$864	1

	Amount brought over	864 1
Sept.	To Randall Thayer, jun. and David Richards, for exertions in taking James C. Davis out of the water, one dollar each - -	2
	To Henry Brewer, for preventing another lad being drowned near India wharf -	5
	To Benjamin Dutch, for preventing William Brown being drowned - - -	3
	To John Kimball for his bold exertions in preventing Francis Abbot being drowned near Barry's wharf - - - -	10
	To Martha Rowe, for taking a child from the water	3
Oct.	To Mr. Braddock Loring, for his intrepid exertions in attempting to save the life of a child	10
	To John Gardner, for his exertions in preventing a Mr. Barrett from drowning himself in a fit of insanity - - - - -	5
	To James Magee Hyde, for his heroic exertions in saving the life of another boy, (Aaron Pond) when in great danger - -	10
Nov.	To William Masony, for rescuing a child named Barnabas Bailey from great danger of being drowned - - - - -	5
	To William Hagar, for taking two boys from the water, while in danger of drowning -	5
	To Milton Moore, of Russell, for his bold exertions in diving to the bottom of a pond in West Springfield, and taking therefrom the body of Asa Adams of Western, and bringing it to the shore, where, by persevering efforts, it was resuscitated - - - - -	15
	To Abraham Cox, for plunging into the water at Barnes's Wharf, and bringing to the shore a man in danger of drowning - - -	5
Dec.	To Isaac Williams, for his persevering efforts in rescuing a boy, (son of Mr. Gay of Quincy) from great danger of drowning -	10
	To Mr. Samuel Williams, of Augusta, for his bold and well directed efforts in saving the life of Frederick Lithgow, son of Col. Lithgow, who had sunk to the bottom of Kennebeck River, was taken up senseless, and afterwards resuscitated, a gold medal of fifteen dollars value	15
	To Thomas Pelham, for his exertions in preventing Francis Blanchard being drowned -	3
	Amount carried over	$970 1

	Amount brought over	970	1
	To the Massachusetts General Hospital Corporation, to be appropriated in aid of the establishment of an Hospital for Insane Persons	5000	
1817. *Jan.*	To Joshua Lovell, for building a new hut, and repairing an old one on Nantasket beach, for relief of ship-wrecked mariners and others	181	91
	To Mr. Lemuel Ayres, for supplying fuel, candles, fire works, &c. for the huts	46	49
Feb.	To Hayden, a poor Irishman, for affording shelter and all of comfort it was in his power to bestow on another poor Irishman, in danger of perishing by cold	3	
	To Seth A. Ruggles, for preventing Daniel Wyman being drowned, after he had fallen through the ice near Central wharf	2	
March.	To Matthew Powers, for rescuing Thomas Dinn from danger of drowning	2	
	To Lieutenant William Finch, of the United States navy, *the* THANKS *of the Society* for the promptness and good judgment evinced by him, while commanding officer of the U. S. ship Independence, in devising such measures, and giving such orders, as were, when executed, the means of saving the lives of John Manuel, Elizabeth Ireson and Olive Brown.		
	To Lieutenant William Dayton Salter, of the U. S. navy, a gold medal of twenty dollars value, for saving, at the great hazard of his own life, the lives of the before mentioned John Manuel, Elizabeth Ireson and Olive Brown	20	
	To Mr. John M'Cloud, boatswain of the U. S. ship Independence, to Mr. John F. Howell, midshipman, and Mr. George D. Dodds, midshipman, a silver medal each of five dollars value, for their intrepid exertions in assisting lieutenant Salter. And to William Hosmer, Martin Wolfe, John Marsh, Parker Hawkins, Thomas Watson, Constant Harmin, Richard Hardy, John Gross, Jacob Anderson, Charles Miller, John Street, William Triton and Peter Haggerty, the seamen who composed the crew of the barge commanded by lieutenant Salter on the above occasion, one dollar each	28	
	Amount carried over	$6253	41

	Amount brought over	6253	41
April.	To Thomas Prowse, for his exertions in preventing Peter Akerman from drowning -	3	
	To Royal Snow, for rescuing Tobias Cook from danger of drowning - - -	4	
May.	To Ephraim C. Root, for his exertions in saving George Scott from drowning, after he had fallen from the foreyard of the brig Falcon at Liverpool Wharf - - - -	6	
	To Eber Parker, for his persevering exertions in preventing a child being drowned -	8	
	To Mr. Hosea, for rescuing James Myers from danger of drowning - - -	5	
	Four premiums for essays, at $30 each -	120	
	John Eliot's account of printing subscription papers for Hospital for Insane persons -	3	
June.	To William Tewksbury for his intrepid exertions in saving the lives of Thomas Currier, William Currier, John Humphrey, Stephen Jackman, William Brewer, Charles Field, and Rolla, a Lascar lad, when in imminent danger of drowning, seventy dollars, and a gold medal of the value of ten dollars - - - -	80	
	To Abijah R. Tewksbury thirty-five dollars; to Mrs. Tewksbury twenty dollars; and to a young lad five dollars, for their humane exertions in assisting Mr. T. - - -	60	
		$6542	41

Schedule of Funds of the Massachusetts Humane Society, 1817.

One share in Malden Bridge Corporation } Ten do. in Chelsea do. } -	800	
Two shares in West Boston do. $150 each	300	
Union Bank Stock - - - -	4800	
Manufacturer's and Mechanic's do. - -	1000	
State Bank, reduced from $500—two fifths paid	300	
U. S. old 6 per cent. stock, $3179, 57 nominal	289	58
do. 6 per do. deferred, $675, 63 -	314	19
do. 3 per do. $791, 25 at 65 per cent.	514	31
Massachusetts State Note - - -	1963	92
	$10,282	00

Boston, *August* 1, 1817. Errors excepted.

SAMUEL COBB, *Treasurer.*

THE following account could not be obtained in time for insertion in regular order, viz.

On Friday, June 16, 1815, five persons left a pleasure boat, in a jolly boat, with intention to land on the Light House Island, at the entrance of Boston harbour. When within about eight rods from the island, the jolly boat partly filled with water, and being frightened, three of the men jumped from her, with intention of gaining a rock which was above the water. They missed the rock, and being unable to swim, clasped each other, and sank in about eight or nine feet of water. Mr. Lawrence Nichols immediately stripped himself and plunged in. He found two of them at the bottom, and by a violent exertion separated them from each other, and succeeded in getting to the rock with one of them. With the assistance of another of the party who had gained it, he got him upon it. Plunging in a second time, he was fortunate enough to bring the other man also upon the rock. After a few minutes respit, he saw the third man floating near to it, swam to him, and brought him also to a place of safety. By proper methods the two first men were resuscitated, but all efforts were fruitless in regard to the third person.

The Trustees of the Society presented a gold medal (value thirty dollars) to Mr. Nichols, with their thanks for his persevering exertions on the occasion.

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NOTE. The notes referred to in the Discourse, pages 11 and 13, are omitted.

B.P.L. Bindery,
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